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Volume 2

Number 11 *The Iowa Homemaker* vol.2, no.11

Article 7

1922

The Youthful Guest

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Recommended Citation

Rayburn, Esther Ellen (1922) "The Youthful Guest," *The Iowa Homemaker*: Vol. 2 : No. 11 , Article 7.

Available at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol2/iss11/7>

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indicates all too clearly the careful, thoughtful scrutiny given. Fraternity houses should have a "national ruling" permitting no comments about personal business.

Next to the passion for seeing the mail first is the joy of capturing the evening paper. The smaller the town the more fascinating the news.

In a well disciplined family it is understood that this is the father's prerogative. It is known to all that the most comfortable chair placed where the light is best, his slippers and the paper easily accessible are as soothing syrup to a seething soul. But each child in turn, especially little sister, must be taught this tradition by the mother before it is thoroughly established and before discussion of the matter can be eliminated.

As for the Sunday paper, it is well that there are easily divisible parts for the various members: "funnies" for the fretful, editorials for the editorially minded, pictures for the movie minded and fashions for the frivolous. The Sunday paper has been decried as offering unfair competition with church and Sunday school,

but by its mere divisibility, it has prevented incalculable crimes.

A virtue that easily passes into the best idiosyncs is the love of fresh air. For the sake of health, there should be a fresh air fiend in every family. But how many a modern daughter, full of hygiene and good works, has been the bane of her grandmother! She would open windows that had been locked for years! She would air out the living rooms when they had just begun to get warm "of a morning," and have a howling draft blowing around your head in the kitchen. Doing good to one's family becomes an idiosync when distemper, dyspepsia and dissension are aggravated.

Will Mr. Edison please answer the questions, "How do you choose records for the average family, and whose preferences should be considered when giving an informal concert?" Father of course hates jazz, never failing to make use of the well known bromide, "There isn't a bit of music to it. It's just noise!" His choice is an Irish policeman making love to a maid. The children cry for "Farmyard Frolics," or "Mr. Smith Mim-

ics The Circus Animals." Big brother demands a male quartet arrangement of "Sing Me to Sleep." Mother usually waits till they are all out of the house, then listens calmly to Alma Gluck sing "Carry Me Back—."

Nowadays, all persons can be divided into two classes, those who really drive cars, and those who really don't. Those who really don't are acknowledged by themselves to be invaluable in the back seat. No one has yet estimated the tragedies that have been averted by the far-sighted, and the near sighted, and the cross-eyed persons on the back seat.

There is one man who intends to solve the problem by having a car built with five stationary steering wheels and two folding ones, so that all the persons in a seven passenger car may do as they see fit. Love will find a way, the coroner will find what remains.

Perhaps our individual preferences more or less savagely imposed on our loved ones, develop, in them, the saving grace of tolerance. Perhaps their idiosyncs develop, in us, the will to "do unto others—".

The Youthful Guest

By ESTHER ELLEN RAYBURN

AS long as there are children there will be guests. Grownups might stop visiting one another but the child will visit as long as there is anything to visit. He is too curious and adventurous to ever stop probing the depths of the neighbor's house. Thus it is that whenever a new family moves into the neighborhood the children all know everything about the new family—what they have in the house, what they all look like, and even a few of the family secrets long before their less curious parents ever do. It is because of this that children are the real guests of the world.

Infants behave in various ways when calling on friends. What a joy it is to find among all of them that "visiting go" one child who doesn't demand constant attention, who can amuse himself with what his hostess provides and can treat food in a calm manner. There are any number of children of whom a hostess quickly tires and about whom she says unpleasant things to her husband, but she finds few who know how to behave when visiting.

Think back on the days when you were receiving the visits rather than taking your own child to call and perhaps you will remember how irksome it grew to have your friend's child constantly interrupting the conversation and complaining because he couldn't find anything to do.

Good table manners are important in children. Perfection is not to be expected in the infant of one day even to the boy or girl of fifteen years, but there are some few things which help to make him an agreeable guest. It is pleasing for a hostess to behold in her small visitor some knowledge of the use of the silver and food on the table. What can be more disgusting than to see a child cram food



Good manners, tho not perfection, can be, and is, expected of the youthful guest of today.

hastily into his mouth as if it were a rare occasion and it was up to him to make the most of it!

Family history records countless whippings and severe scoldings which small people have suffered because they did not behave as they might when calling with mother. A guest is a curious sort of a person. Few people know how to act in such a situation and there are some who are quite at a loss to know how a guest should be treated. Since this is true it is small wonder that children are rather bewildered when they find themselves in such a position.

If there has been no foundation of good manners and behavior given at home it is useless to expect that your child will be a model when he is visiting. Why neglect his training and then punish him because you are ashamed of his conduct?

Children are more or less, and considerably more, images of the people they imitate and do things as they see others

doing them. Embarrassing moments for parents can be lessened by home training. It is so easy to forget in your personal admiration for your child that hostesses cannot enjoy a naughty, boisterous child.

A hostess has a real job on her hands if she entertains successfully a group of children. Children remember for a long time the unusually nice things that are done for them. If a hostess seeks to make secure a reputation as a real hostess she has only to get the approval of the less mature members of the community.

It is very important that a child who is the only youngster in a group of grownups, be not forgotten. The hostess must treat him as she treats other guests. Children are quick to notice and criticize. A mother's careful instruction and training may all be lost when a careless hostess does not live up to the things the child has been taught to expect of a hostess.

It used to be proper to allow the children to eat after all the grown-ups had finished. That has rather gone in to disregard and it is perhaps well. It rather tended to teach the children patience and the importance of elders, but how often it has hurt their small dignities to be shoved aside.

Mothers, children and hostesses are all involved in the question of whether a child is a good guest or not. The mother and child have of course the biggest part to do with it but woe unto the hostess who fails in her part after the mother and child have lived up to theirs.

Thus small guests need training. It is quite as important that the children appear well as that you do yourself. As they have been called the guests of the world, they are the guests of all guests to be carefully trained.